

AMBE School Reopening Protocol

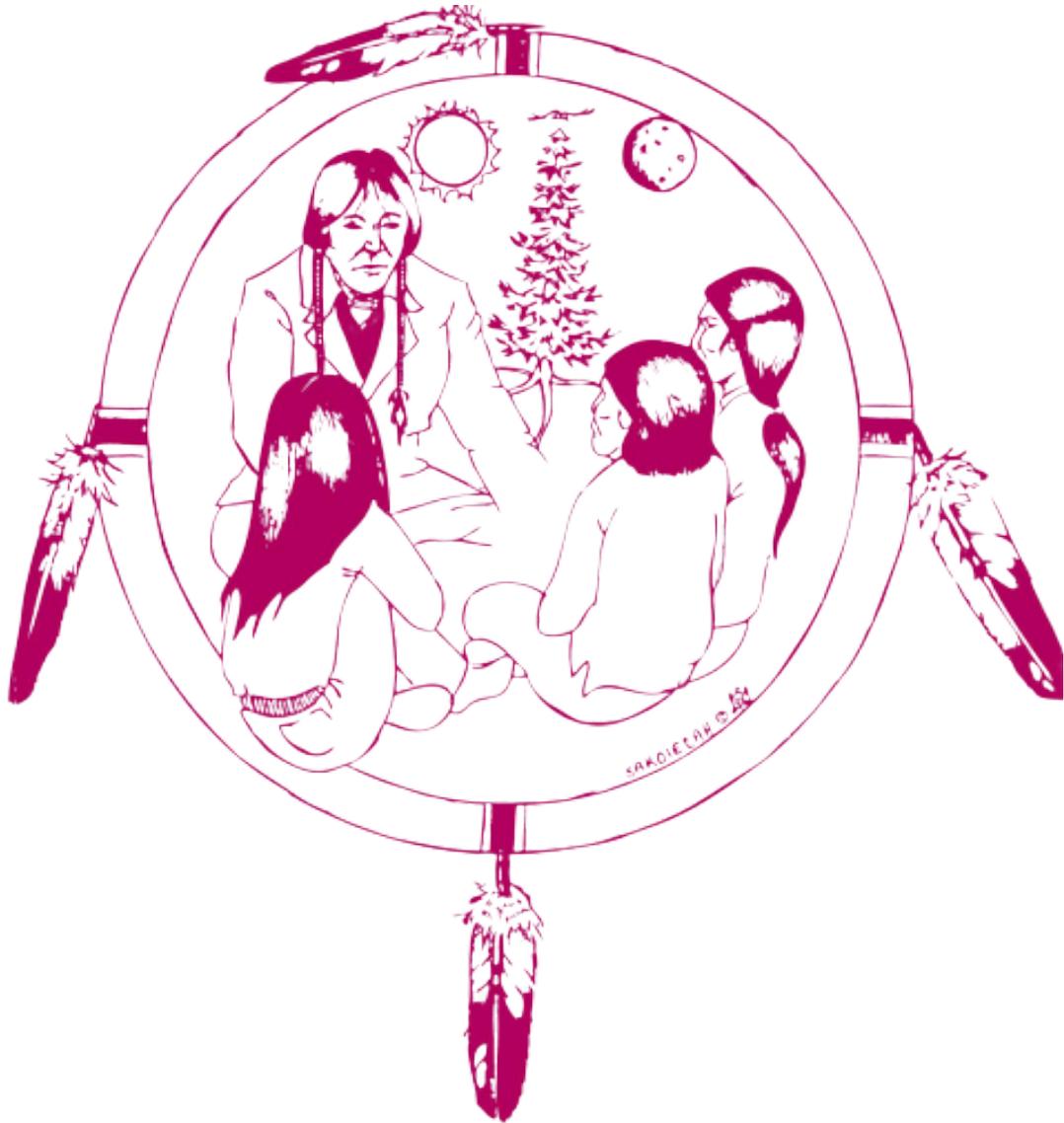


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Introduction and Purpose

This information was established to support the re-opening of the AMBE schools for the 2020-2021 academic year. Our goal at AMBE is to provide a safe and healthy school environment for students, teachers and staff. We strive to provide a high quality education for all of our students, while keeping their health and safety at the forefront of our decisions.

Schools will reopen with two styles of teaching and instruction. A hybrid model will allow for smaller class sizes, these students would come into school for two days of instruction, and would also receive two days of remote learning instruction.

Parents who choose not to send their children into school, will receive four days of remote learning instruction. They will be required to logon to lessons for three to four hours a day, four days a week.

AMBE is following the direction of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Health Unit and the recommendations from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit.

Important Dates

- September 1, 2020 - Staff return to buildings
- September 8 - 18 - Assessments will be completed by appointment
- September 21, 2020 - First Day of instruction
- Monthly updates will be made available for parents

Protection Strategies

Screening

- Daily screening will occur for all students and staff who enter the building. Any student or staff who have a fever of 38 C or 100.4 F will be refused entry to the school.
- Students who utilize transportation will have their temperature checked prior to boarding the bus, if they have a temperature of over 38C or 100.4F they will not be allowed to get on the bus.
- Students who are driven to school will have to have their temperature checked before parents are allowed to leave the premises.
- Staff will have a temperature screening completed as they enter the building.
- Staff or students who are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 should refrain from coming into the building and seek immediate medical care. If testing is warranted, said staff member or student should remain home until they are cleared to return to school by Community Health or a primary physician.

School Environment

Hand hygiene

- Students will practice hand hygiene throughout the day.
- Students will have scheduled breaks to help with sanitization.
- Teachers and families will be provided with information from Community Health.

Masks

- All students will be required to wear masks while riding the bus. Parents/Guardians must provide their children with a storage container for their children's masks
 - Examples include Ziplock bag, paper bag, a separate pencil case just for their mask. All containers must be clearly marked with their name on it.
- Staff will be required to wear masks all day
- Students in Pre-K to Grade 3 will be encouraged but not required to wear masks in indoor spaces.
- Masks should be hung on hooks when not in use or stored in a paper bag.
- It is suggested that students and staff have a minimum of 2-4 masks per day.
- Students in Grades 4 to 8 will be required to wear masks indoors in school, including in hallways and during most classes.
- Recess time and outdoor breaks can be used as a time to provide students with a break from wearing masks if they maintain social distancing.

Cohorting

- Students will be kept in one small group during the day, with limited exposure to other students. This is in place to aid in contact tracing, if necessary.

Distancing

- Movement within the school will be limited as much as possible
- Each school will provide as much distancing as possible between students, students and staff, and between staff members.
- Any unnecessary furniture will be removed from the classroom to allow for more distancing space.

Visitors

- Schools have been asked to limit or prohibit visitors (including parents) from entering the school.
- Health Professionals, social service professionals, school-based supports and emergency services will be allowed into the building and will have to abide by the screening policy.
- If you are dropping off or picking up your child you must call ahead and wait for someone to come out and greet you.
- All visitors on school grounds, including bus loading and unloading zones, are required to wear a mask.

Academics

Chromebooks

- AMBE will provide all students (K5 - Grade 8) with a Chromebook to support their learning
- Both learning styles (hybrid or full online) will make use of the Chromebook in their daily instruction

Remote learning

- Remote learning will be a combination of face to face instruction via google classroom, working on web based learning sites, and completing packets sent home from teachers.
- Protocol for on-line instruction will be reviewed with students and teachers at the start of the school year.
- Attendance will be taken on a daily basis.
- Students and parents will receive a schedule from their teachers outlining their instructional day.
- Parents who choose remote learning, cannot enroll their child back into the school until the end of the first term

Hybrid Model

- Each school will schedule classes to maximize the learning opportunities for the students. Hybrid classes will receive two in school days of instruction per week, and two days of on-line learning from the same teachers when possible. These will be their core classes of math, literacy, social studies or science, mohawk language and physical education. During this time assessments will take place to identify gaps that are related to the extended closure from last school year, and to ensure that student needs are met.
- On-line learning will be a combination of homework, teacher instruction and the use of web-based learning sites.
- On-line lessons will be a combination of live streamed and pre-recorded lessons.
- Protocol for on-line instruction will be reviewed with students and teachers at the start of the school year.
- Attendance will be mandatory for both in school and on-line learning.
- Students and parents will receive a schedule from their teachers outlining their instructional day.

Assessment

- Students will receive instruction for the grade they are entering in September.
- We will not participate in EQAO
- All students will be assessed in reading using Scholastic Reading Inventory and Reading Roots Formal Assessment.
- All students will be assessed in Math using the Pre-Math assessment tool.
- In addition, all students' fluency levels will be assessed in the Skahwatsira program.

Online Learning Expectations

- Attendance will be mandatory
- Be prepared (materials) and on time
- All work will be graded and count towards your report cards
- Dress appropriately
- The duration of online sessions will vary according to grade level. These online sessions should be a combination of lessons, activities, group work and/or conferencing:
 - **K5 - Grade 2:** 1.5-2.5 hours per day
 - **Grade 3 - Grade 5:** 2 - 4 hours per day
 - **Grade 6 - Grade 8:** 3 - 5 hours per day

Health & Physical Education

- Health and physical education will continue to be taught. Teachers will be encouraged to teach lessons outside, and to use the gym when social distancing is possible.
- Teachers will be encouraged to limit the use of shared equipment, and all used equipment will be regularly disinfected.

Mental Wellness

- Additional services will be available for students who feel they need extra support.
- Staff have access to EAP (Employee Assistance Program) and they will receive training to support mental wellness within the school community and themselves.
- Promotion of online counseling sessions for remote learners.

Staff Room/Photocopy Room

- Modifications have been made at each school. Each school will have specific signage and guidelines to adhere to.
- Staff must clean and sanitize the area they used.
- The multipurpose room will be used for the staff eating area in order to ensure social distancing. Seating will be clearly marked.

Transportation

- Student temperatures will be taken before they are allowed to enter the bus, if they have a fever of **38C or 100.4F** they will be turned away.
- All students will be required to wear a mask on the bus.
- Social distancing will be practiced on the bus.
- Only family members will be allowed to sit together, otherwise one student per seat.
- If you choose to provide transportation for your child, you will have to wait until the end of the first term for them to ride the bus.
- Please be aware that in order to shorten the length of time that students are on the bus, there will be no inter-district transportation provided. If you attend AMS and you reside in St Regis, Snye, or the American side, we cannot provide bus transportation to AMS. Bussing to Kana:takon and Tsi Snaihne School will not be impacted.
- Bus passes will not be accepted - pickup and drop off points will be the same.

Monitoring and Responding to reports of Covid-19 symptoms

Sick students or Staff

- If students become sick at school they will be placed in an isolation room and monitored. Parents will be notified and will be required to immediately pick up their child.
 - Parents will notify Administration when they arrive at school with a face mask on
 - Administration will escort parents to the isolation room
 - Parents will collect their child
- Symptoms will be tracked and a report will be sent to Community Health.
- In order for a student to return to school they will require a doctor's note or proof of a negative Covid-19 test. If they are unable to provide documentation they will be expected to stay home for 14 days. During this time they will have access to online learning.
- Once the isolation room has been used it will be cleaned, sanitized and ventilated.
- Staff who become ill during the day should immediately inform their supervisor so that arrangements can be made for the staff member to leave.
- Staff will also require a note to return back to work or proof of a negative COVID-19 test.

Confirmed or Suspected Case

- AMBE upholds strict confidentiality with confirmed or suspected cases in our workplace. This falls under our oath of confidentiality.
- If staff or students have any Covid-19 symptoms, they should stay home and call their physician and seek immediate care.
- If there is a confirmed case:
 - Contact-tracing protocol will immediately go into effect notifying anybody who may have been potentially exposed to get tested.
 - The classroom will be cleaned, sanitized and ventilated.
 - Cases will only be confirmed from Community Health or EOHU. We will follow their guidance and recommendations for contact tracing, isolation, quarantine and potential closure.
 - If a full closure is warranted, all students will transition into remote learning.
 - If a student is home quarantined and are feeling well they can join online classes.
- If staff or students came in contact with an infected person, contact Community Health or EOHU immediately.
- Staff and students who came in contact with an infected person should quarantine for 14 days.
- Students and staff who did not come in direct contact should self monitor for symptoms and contact Community Health or EOHU.
- Anybody who has to undergo a contact tracing situation due to potential exposure to COVID-19 outside of the workplace must inform their supervisor immediately and follow the isolation protocols.

Cleaning standards and protocols

- Routine cleaning will be done by maintenance staff throughout the day and after school.
- Bathrooms and horizontal surfaces will be wiped down and disinfected every half hour.
- High traffic areas will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- Teachers and support staff will help in the cleaning of their classrooms. Each classroom will be provided with approved cleaning supplies and gloves.
- The AMBE Maintenance Manager will provide information to staff about proper cleaning solutions and cleaning protocols that are approved and used in the schools.
- Staff will be asked to leave the building by 4:00 p.m. so that rooms can be sprayed and cleaned.
- Maintenance will maintain a log to show when rooms were cleaned.
- All chairs and tables will be disinfected on a daily basis.
- Enhanced sanitizing procedures will be completed in the schools when students are not in the building.

Lunch/Food Services

- All students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms.
- Only students who have prepaid for their breakfast and lunch will receive meals.
- If you haven't prepaid you are expected to send in a lunch with your child.
- Please provide items that your child can open independently. The food must not require refrigeration or a microwave.
- For more information, please contact the Food Services Facilitator, Louella Lazore at louella.lazore@ambe.ca

Record Keeping for Contact Tracing

Schools will keep records of:

- Daily attendance (in-school and online)
- Daily seating charts
- Daily bus seating chart
- Daily visitors log and screening
- Daily bathroom sign-out log for each class
- Maintenance cleaning logs
- Employee COVID-19 Screening

Screening Tool

COVID- 19 Self- Assessment Screening for Students

In order to ensure health and safety of students and staff it is imperative that students are assessed daily. The following questions will help guide safety by determining risk or symptoms present. This screening **MUST** be done daily at home.

#	Question	YES	NO
1.	Has your child travelled beyond the MCA established radius of Akwesasne in the last 14 days?		
2.	Does your child have a confirmed case of COVID-19 or had close contact with a confirmed probable case of COVID-19?		
3.	Does your child or any member of your household have any of the following symptoms? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fever (38 C or 100.4 F or greater) ● New or worsening cough ● Difficulty breathing ● Sore throat ● Difficulty swallowing ● Decrease or loss of taste or smell ● Chills ● Headaches ● Unexplained muscle fatigue/muscle soreness/pain ● New or worsening digestive symptoms, including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or abdominal pain ● Pink eye (conjunctivitis) ● Runny nose or nasal congestion- without known cause 		
4.	Has your child been given fever reducing medications in the last 5 hours?		

If you have answered **YES** to any of these questions, it is recommended to have your child stay home. If your child is experiencing any symptoms or is presenting in an ill manner, please seek medical attention.